



# The UFO Enigma

Volume 7, Number 1 DECEMBER 1986

## ALL UFO REPORTS ARE IMPORTANT

By Bruce Widaman

Reminder: ALL UFO reports are important!

It's amazing to me that some people do not report a UFO sighting or encounter because it happened a long time ago. People - please, all of the UFO data is important. Theory has it that only a small percentage of all UFOs sighted get reported and the witnesses' data analyzed.

If we could expose more than the tip of the iceberg of the UFO evidence, I am sure a more interested public would be asking the age old questions: Who are these people and what do they want? To get to this point in UFO history, we as serious UFO researchers need to compile the best UFO data possible. This definitely includes old UFO reports.

I know personally of a UFO case that was confirmed 20 years later, independently, by two people who asked at a meeting I was attending, if we were interested in old UFO reports. The man who investigated the report had the second shock of his life in as much as he witnessed the same UFO as a youth. The investigator was on one side of the lake as these 2 people, traveling in their car stopped on the highway on the other side of the lake at the same time.

So may I remind you - please - all UFO reports are important!

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## Happy Holidays



**A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATION  
OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS (UFOs)**

## A Legend of Devil's Tower

As told by Lane Deer in Winner, Roseland Sioux Indian Reservation, South Dakota, 1969, and recorded by Richard Erdoes.

Out of the plains of Wyoming, rises Devil's Tower. It is really a rock, visible for a hundred miles around, an immense cone of basalt which seems to touch the clouds. It sticks out of the flat prairie as if someone had pushed it up from underground.

Of course, Devil's Tower is a white man's name. We have no devil in our beliefs and got along well all these centuries without him. You people invented the devil and, as far as I am concerned, you can keep him. But everybody these days knows that towering rock by this name, so Devil's Tower it is. No use telling you its Indian name. Most tribes call it Bear Rock. There is a reason for that - if you see it, you will notice on its sheer sides many, many streaks and gashes running straight up and down like scratches made by giant claws.

Well, long, long ago, two young Indian boys found themselves lost in the prairie. You know how it is. They had played Shinny Ball and whacked it a few hundred yards out of the village. And then they had shot their toy bows still farther out into the sage brush. And then they had heard a small animal make a noise and had gone to investigate. They had come to a stream with many colorful pebbles and followed that for a while. They came to a hill and wanted to see what was on the other side. On the other side they saw a herd of antelope and, of course, had to track them for a while. When they got hungry and thought it was time to go home, the two boys found that they didn't know where they were. They started off in one direction where they thought their village

was, but only got farther and farther away from it. At last they curled up beneath a tree and went to sleep.

They got up the next morning and walked some more, still headed the wrong way. They ate some wild berries and dug up wild turnips, found some choke berries, and drank water from streams. For three days they walked toward the west. They were footsore but they survived. Oh, how they wished their parents or aunts and uncles or elder brothers and sisters would find them. But nobody did.

On the fourth day, the boys suddenly had a feeling that they were being followed. They looked around and in the distance saw Mato, the bear. This was no ordinary bear, but a giant grizzly so huge that the two boys would make only a small mouthful for him, but he had smelled the boys and wanted that mouthful. He kept coming close, and the earth trembled as he gathered speed.

The boys started running, looking for a place to hide, but there was no such place and the grizzly was much, much faster than they. The stumbled and the bear was almost upon them. They could see his red, wide-open jaws full of enormous, wicked teeth. They could smell his hot, evil breath.

The boys were old enough to have learned to pray, and they called upon Wakan Tanka, the Creator: "Tunkashila, Grandfather, have pity, save us".

All at once, the earth shook and began to rise. The boys rose with it. Out of the earth came a cone of rock going up, up, up until it was more than a thousand feet high. And the boys were on top of it.

Mato, the bear, was disappointed to see his meal disappearing into the clouds. Have I said he was a giant bear? This grizzly was so huge that he should almost reach to the top of the rock when he stood on his hind legs.



# Happy New Year

Almost, but not quite. His claws were as large as a tipi's lodge poles. Frantically, Mato dug his claws into the side of the rock trying to get up, trying to get those boys. As he did so, he made big scratches in the sides of the towering rock. But the stone was too slippery. Mato could not get up. He tried every spot, every side. He scratched up the rock all around, but it was no use. The boys watched him wearing himself out, getting tired, giving up. They finally saw him going away, a huge, growling, grunting mountain of fur disappearing over the horizon.

The boys were saved. Or were they? How were they to get down? They were humans, not birds who could fly. Some ten years ago, mountain climbers tried to conquer Devil's Tower. They had ropes, and hooks called pitons to nail themselves to the rock face, and they managed to get up. But they couldn't get down. They were marooned on that giant basalt cone, and they had to be taken off in a helicopter.

In the long-ago days, the Indians had no helicopters. So how did the two boys get down? The legend does not tell us, but we can be sure that the Great Spirit didn't save those boys only to let them perish of hunger and thirst on the top of the rock.

Well, Wanblee, the eagle, has always been a friend to our people. So it must have been the eagle that let the boys grab hold of him and carried them safely back to their village. Or do you know another way?

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The Devil's Tower is located in northeastern Wyoming. It is a mass of lava rising 1280 feet above the river valley. It is 100 feet in diameter.

## UFO Study Group Meeting November 9, 1986

John Roppolo, president, opened the meeting at 2:30 pm. John explained that Ted Phillips would not be speaking due to unforeseen events. Ted hopes to speak at a meeting sometime in early 1987.

Frank Brown discussed UFO articles in the media and Marjorie Sherrill continued a report on an activity with SORRAT which was begun during the Parapsychology Committee meeting.

Bruce Widaman was the main speaker. Bruce is the MUFON State Director for Missouri. He updated the following:

1. The Bakersfield sighting.
2. Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS).
3. Institute of Noetic Sciences.
4. The Fund for UFO Research, Sponsor of the 1987 MUFON Symposium.
5. Home computers can be tied into a National UFO Catalog.
6. Carl Sagan shifting position in Cosmos TV show aired November 1 regarding META.
7. CIA involvement with UFO's during the early years.

John Roppolo reviewed possible speakers for upcoming meetings. Food and who would bring what for the Christmas Party was discussed.





## FRACTALS - A TOOL AT LAST?

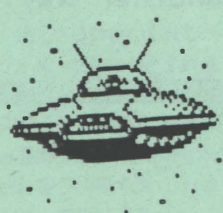
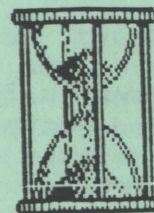
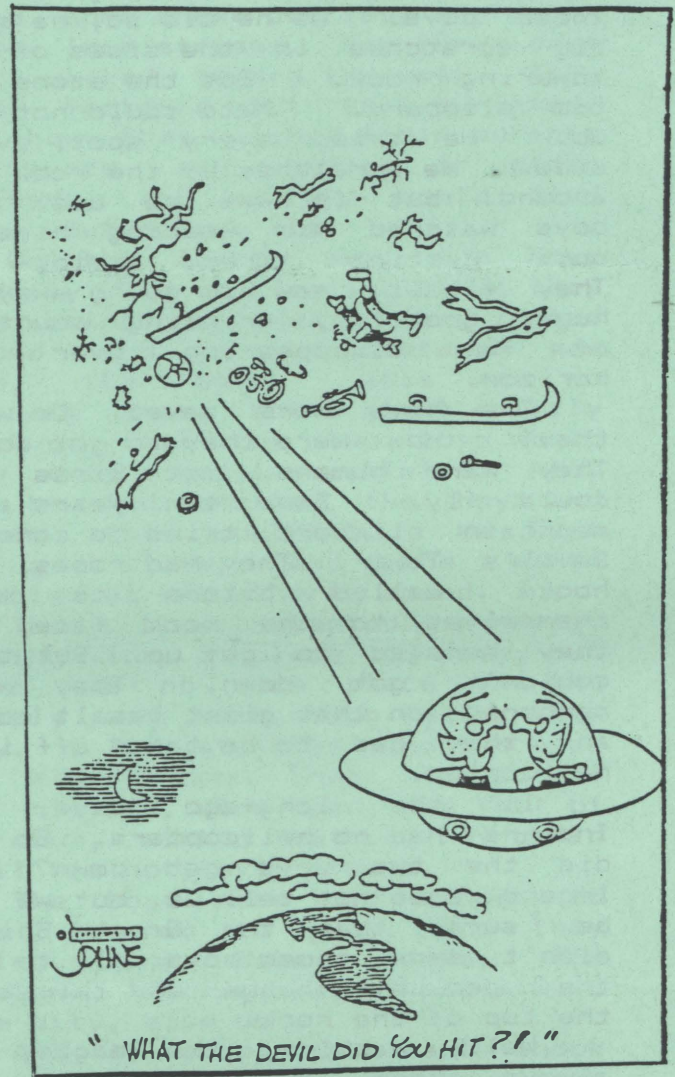
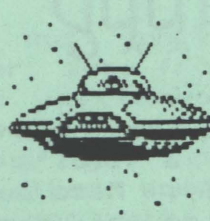
By Stephen Davis

Fractal Geometry is described as a branch of mathematics concerned with finding order in apparent randomness. I have included a reference guide to associate the reader with current scientific offerings on the nature and uses of this unique branch of physics. As described in the articles, fractal mathematics has been used in making sense out of such systems as the economic system and the weather, with surprising results. Might this be a means by which researchers in the field of ufology and related phenomena can finally make sense out of the randomness apparent in the masses of data which have been collected on the subject since the last century? I would also like to direct the reader's attention to an article in the magazine, Science Digest, April 1986, Page 51, about the structure of infinite minimal surfaces and the resulting similarities in the shapes of such surfaces and those of some reported UFOs. I would also like to urge the reader interested in research to expand their reading into as many diverse fields as possible, for the facilitation of creative thinking.

### REFERENCE GUIDE

<u>Science News</u>	05/05/86	Pg 279
<u>Scientific American</u>	08/85	Pg 16
<u>Physics Today</u>	02/86	Pg 6
<u>Science</u>	02/21/86	Pg 814
<u>Science News</u>	04/05/86	Pg 217
<u>Physics Today</u>	04/86	Pg 17
<u>Science Digest</u>	06/86	Pg 28
<u>Science</u>	06/27/86	Pg 1607

EDITOR'S NOTE: Stephen Davis is a twenty-four year old St. Louisan. Stephen is a graduate of Bayless High School and has been interested in the UFO phenomena since he was nine years old. Although he has not seen a UFO, he has read a great deal on the subject. Stephen submitted this article in response to our request for articles in last months Enigma. Our thanks to Stephen for this contribution.





## The 1897 UFO Controversy

By Helen Hanke

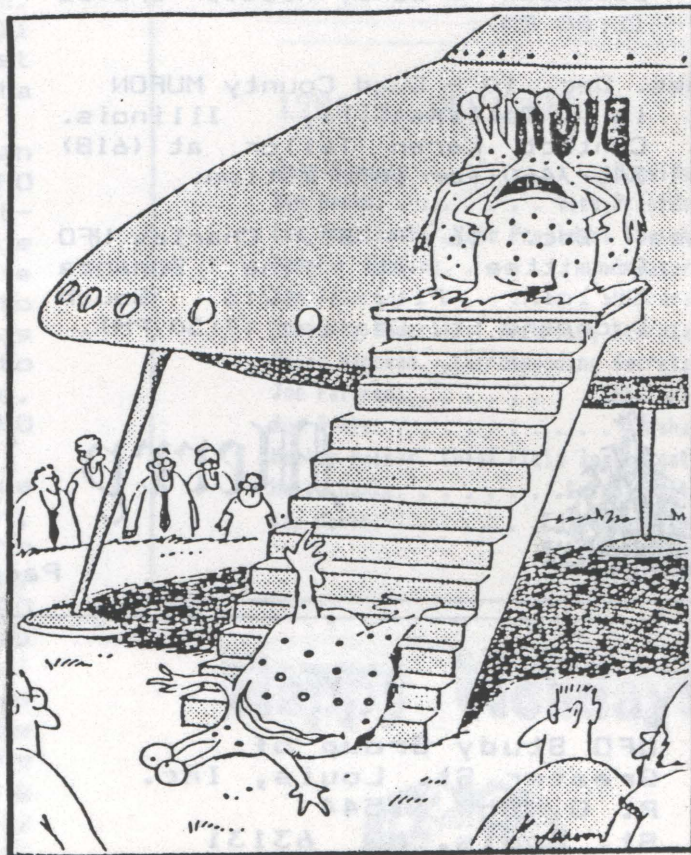
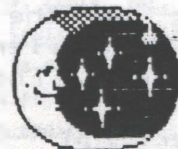
One of the first UFO reports came from the area of San Francisco and Oakland, California. The Oakland Tribune newspaper reported that on the evening of November 24, 1896, commuters going aboard a ferry in San Francisco said they saw an egg-shaped object moving quickly through the sky. The ferry boat passengers said that the object followed the ferry and hovered over the dock in Alameda. It then disappeared to the north-east at high speed. It was reported that none of the witnesses saw wings or propellers on the craft. The ferry left San Francisco at 6:15 PM and arrived in the Alameda - Oakland area about 6:50 PM.

A telegram arrived from Red Bluff, a city 162 miles from San Francisco reporting that at about 7:00 PM on this same evening, many people in that city saw an egg-shaped object pass overhead at high speed.

In Sistersville, West Virginia, people were awakened about 5:00 am on April 19, 1897. It was reported that a tube-like object with red and green lights along the sides, hovered overhead, playing a brilliant search-light on the ground. One resident was so startled that he pulled the whistle at the main factory, waking everyone.

Another flying object was reported over Yates Center, Kansas on the same day - April 19, 1897. The distance between these cities is about 800 miles. On April 23, 1897 a farmer, Daniel Gray, said that a flying object passed over his farm near Flint, Michigan. A newspaper from the flying object fluttered to the ground. The date on the newspaper was October 5, 1896 and the newspaper was from Toronto, Canada. The length of time between these two dates is 200 days.

On April 16, 1897, the Dallas Morning News reported a sighting of an airship at Weatherford occurring on April 14th. It was also reported to be seen in Cresson and Corsicana, Texas on the night of April 14th. It was described as about 30 feet long and cigar shaped.



"Wonderful! Just wonderful!... So much for instilling them with a sense of awe."





# Calendar

DECEMBER 1986

Wed. Dec. 3 - Parapsychology Committee at Victoria Bloom's home. Marquette Mobile Home Village #69, 1701 Fairlane, St. Charles (7:30 PM) Directions: Exit I-70 at 5th Street, go south past Noah's Ark Restaurant to Fairlane (parallels I-70). Go west 1 mile to Marquette Mobile Home Park on the south. It's the first trailer on the right of entrance. Phone 946-7619.

Sun. Dec. 14 - UFO Study Group Meeting and Christmas Party at the Farm & Home building, Lockwood & Gore, Webster Groves (2:00 PM).

Tues. Dec. 10 - Quad County MUFON in Collinsville, Illinois. Contact Karen Teller at (618) 345-7460 for information.

Tues. Dec. 16 - St. Charles UFO Committee at the Bonanza Sirloin Pit, 1215 South Duchesne St. Charles (7:30 PM).

## Christmas Party

Dec. 14, 1986  
2:00 pm

Please bring fruit,  
cookies, cake  
a salad on casseroles.

## Join Us!



# Merry Christmas



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